Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) ~~Positioning~~ A positioning apparatus adapted to be installed outboard of a linear part conveyor for lifting and rigidly positioning a part above the conveyor at a work station, said apparatus comprising a base member supporting a tower member for horizontal linear movement, a carriage member supported by said tower member for vertical linear movement, a generally horizontal elongated arm member supported by said carriage member for horizontal linear movement perpendicular to said linear movement of said tower member and between a horizontally extended position and a retracted position, a first elongated flexible gear belt connected to move said tower member horizontally on said base member, a second elongated flexible gear belt connected to move said carriage member vertically on said tower member, a third elongated flexible gear belt connected to move said arm member horizontally relative to said carriage member, a corresponding idler gear engaging each of said gear ~~belt~~ belts, and a separate reversible electric motor drive unit for each of said gear ~~belt~~ belts and having a drive gear engaging ~~the~~ a corresponding of said gear ~~belt~~ belts.

2. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein at least one of said electric motor drive units comprises a gear reducer driven by a servo-controlled electric motor.

3. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 2 wherein said one electric motor drive unit includes an absolute resolver connected to a shaft of the corresponding electric motor and providing an electrical feedback of counts per each revolution of said shaft.

4. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 2 wherein said one electric motor drive unit includes a spring set electrically actuated brake connected to brake the corresponding said shaft of said electric motor.

5. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 1 and including a precision locator pin device supported by an outer end portion of said arm member.

6. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said tower member is supported for said linear movement by a set of parallel spaced horizontal guide rails mounted on said base member, and a set of linear bearings mounted on said tower member and engaging said guide rails.

7. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said carriage member is supported for said vertical linear movement by a set of parallel spaced vertical guide rails mounted on said tower member, and a set of linear bearings mounted on said carriage member and engaging said guide rails.

8. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said arm member is supported by a set of horizontally spaced linear bearings mounted on said carriage member, and an elongated horizontal guide rail secured to said arm member and engaging said linear bearings on said carriage member.

9. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein each of said flexible gear belts includes a reinforced flexible gear belt having opposite end portions, and a set of clamping blocks securing said end portions of the corresponding said belt to the corresponding said tower member, carriage member and arm member.

10. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said tower member comprises a housing enclosing said gear belt, idler gear and drive gear for moving said carriage member.

11. (original) A plurality of at least two of said apparatus each as defined in claim 1 and in combination with a horizontally extending conveyor adapted to support the part for movement along a horizontal linear path, and said apparatus are disposed laterally adjacent opposite sides of said conveyor with the corresponding said arm members projecting laterally inwardly of said conveyor in generally opposing relation.

12. (original) A plurality of at least four of said apparatus each as defined in claim 1 and in combination with a horizontally extending elongated conveyor adapted to support the part for movement along a horizontal linear path, and said apparatus are disposed laterally adjacent opposite sides of said power conveyor with corresponding said arm members projecting laterally inwardly of said conveyor in generally opposing relation.

13. (currently amended) ~~Positioning~~ A positioning apparatus adapted to be installed outboard of a linear part conveyor for lifting and rigidly positioning a part above the conveyor at a work station, said apparatus comprising a base member having parallel spaced horizontal guide rails, a tower member having a bottom portion supporting a plurality of linear bearing blocks mounted on said horizontal guide rails for horizontal linear movement, parallel spaced vertical guide rails mounted on said tower member, a carriage member having a plurality of linear bearing blocks mounted on said vertical guide rails for vertical linear movement, a generally horizontal elongated arm member having a horizontal guide rail, linear bearing blocks mounted on said carriage member and engaging said guide rail on said arm member to provide for horizontal linear movement of said arm member

perpendicular to said linear movement of said tower member and between a horizontally extended position and a retracted position, a first elongated flexible gear belt extending horizontally and connected to move said tower member horizontally on said base member, a second elongated flexible gear belt extending vertically and connected to move said carriage member vertically on said tower member, a third elongated flexible gear belt extending horizontally and connected to move said arm member horizontally relative to said carriage member, a corresponding adjustable idler gear engaging each of said gear ~~belt~~ belts, and a separate reversible electric motor drive unit for each of said gear ~~belt~~ belts and having a drive gear engaging ~~the~~ a corresponding of said gear ~~belt~~ belts.

14. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 13 wherein each of said electric motor drive units comprises a gear reducer driven by a servo-controlled electric motor.

15. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 14 wherein each of said electric motor drive units includes an absolute resolver connected to a shaft of the corresponding electric motor and providing an electrical feedback of counts per each revolution of said shaft.

16. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 14 wherein each of said electric motor drive units includes a spring set electrically actuated brake connected to brake the corresponding said shaft of said electric motor.

17. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 13 and including a precision locator pin device supported by an outer end portion of said arm member.

18. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 13 wherein each of said flexible gear belts includes a reinforced flexible gear belt having opposite end portions, and clamping blocks securing said end portions of each said belt to the corresponding said tower member, carriage member and arm member.

19. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 13 wherein said tower member comprises a housing enclosing said vertically extending gear belt, idler gear and drive gear for moving said carriage member.

20. (original) A plurality of at least four of said apparatus each as defined in claim 13 and in combination with a horizontally extending elongated conveyor adapted to support the part for movement along a horizontal linear path, and said plurality of apparatus are disposed laterally adjacent opposite sides of said power conveyor with corresponding said arm members projecting laterally inwardly of said conveyor.